Railway Crossings on National Highways in Assam

1178. .SHRI NAGEN SAIKIA; Will the Minis'rr of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) what is 'he number of railway-crossings on the National Highways that are runninj; through Assam;

(b) whether State Government of Assam had requested the Central Government to, construct flyovers on those places;

(c) whcther Government propose to construct flyovers at these places; and

(d) if so, by when the work is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY' OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA); (a) 33 Numbers.

(b) The State Government have initiated proposals for road over bridges at five locations.

(c) and (d) The Railways can consider sanctioning these works only on receipt of firm pfip6sals from the State Government with an undertaking to share the cost as per rules, which have not been received so far.-

Drop-outs in Primary Education Level

1179. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI; Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOUR CE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to sta te:

(a) what are the figures of drop-out of students at the Primary education level during the last two years, State wise;

(b) whether there has been any increase or decrease in the drop-out; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to reduce the number of drop-outs?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RE-SOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRl P. V. NARASIMHA RAO); (a) and (b) The Vth All lndia Educational Survey being conducted by NCERT with, reference date as 30-9-1986 is collecting information about drop-out rates among other things. The results of this Survey are not yet available. The latest figures available presently pertains to the year, 1981-82.

(c) Children drop out of schools for a number of reasons, some of which relate to attitude of teachers, parents and students. There is no single, which if implemented, would
reduction in drop-out rates The. causes leading to drop-outs being many a whole range of programmes is needed to have an impact on the situatian various incen tive programmes like free supply of uni ts to giri studen lay meals
free text books and ; scholar ships are being implemented by the state ats|UT Administrations and this Ministry has been persuading the State Governments to increase the covera ge to the extent possible: These various measures have been under implementa tion in 1986-87.

Apart from these initiatives and strengr thening of existing arrangements by the State Governments, as primarily' they look after school education, the Government of India is also taking some new initiatives such as 'Operation Black board' to make available essen in all Primary Schools, strengthening and re-organisa-tion of Non-formal education for school drop-outs, children from habitations without schools, working children and girls who cannot attend wholeday schools, reorganisation and restructuring of Teacher Education and development a of a Core Curriculum. All these measures together are expected to lead to substaniai reduction in drop-out rates.

Publication of Urdu Encyclopedia

1180. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI; Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the time by when the last volume of Urdu encyclopedia is likely to be published;